

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A binding device capable of relatively easy opening/closing by manually handling the tops of binding rings of the binder is provided. A binding device (10) includes: binding rings (12, 14); a holding member (16) having such a length that allows the binding rings (12, 14) to be provided at a distance; and an operating member (18) movably fixed inside the holding member (16) so that the respective bases of the binding rings (12, 14) are secured onto a surface of the operating member at a distance to secure the binding rings (12, 14) to the holding member (16). In this binding device (10), the operating member (18) is composed of a pair of operating pieces (30, 32) moving within the holding member (16) in a longitudinal direction of the holding member (16); the base of one of the binding rings (12, 14) is secured to one of the operating piece (30), whereas the base of the other binding ring (12, 14) is secured to the other operating piece (32); the operating pieces are fixed to the holding member (16) so that abutting edges (30a, 32a) thereof are kept in an abutting state at a position separate from an inner face of the holding member (16) when the binding rings (12, 14) are closed, whereas the abutting edges are kept in a direction of approaching the inner face of the holding member (16) when the binding rings (12, 14) are opened; and an opening/closing

member (40) is provided for shifting the binding rings (12, 14) in an opening direction such that the operating pieces (30, 32) are moved in the longitudinal direction of the holding member (16) within the holding member (16) and are kept in a direction of approaching the inner face of the holding member (16) when the binding rings (12, 14) are opened.